

advantages. If Vermont gives ten cents for every pound of cocoons raised in her State, let Maryland offer the same inducement, and there is little doubt that we shall soon see these staples flourishing in our State, and attracting and enriching our people—it will attract too a hardy and industrious population from those States acquainted with the management of this business, who will pioneer the way for our native citizens. Let a bounty be also offered for the cultivation of sugar, for two or three years, of two or three cents per lb. and the same results will follow the introduction of that staple. In the opinion of your committee, the greatest good will result from such legislation as is recommended. If those crops should succeed as well as they have succeeded elsewhere—the sugar lands of Louisiana, and the cotton lands of Mississippi, will in effect be transported to Atlantic Maryland, and the evil, then, it is believed, exchange the repulsive for the attractive force—and by a union of agricultural with her great manufacturing and commercial means—stand with an overflowing population as her geographical position, places her the most important State in the Union.

The means of supplying the bounties recommended, will without difficulty, be found in the surplus revenue of the General Government, deposited in the course of this year with the State, and may be beneficially used, in the opinion of your committee, by establishing either a bank, with the capital derived from this source, at the Seat of Government, or by a division of the sum to establish banks in each of the counties of the State; the interest gained, to be applied to the payment of bounties, and the loans to be made, (giving always a preference to those who borrow for the purpose of growing silk or sugar.) on the credit of real estate, to the extent of one half its appraised value, upon a credit of ten years, payable in instalments. If the interest should be more than sufficient to pay the bounties, the surplus to be added to the capital. This will insure the ability of the State to repay the deposit when called for by the Government—and the State, it is believed, will be largely benefitted and enriched without adding one cent to the burthens of the people.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

BENJAMIN HOOD, Chairman.